to share actionable intelligence inputs available with the State and Central Intelligence agencies and to launch co-ordinated counter insurgency operations against insurgent groups.

Setting up cells to encourage the non-conventional energy

2410. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposals to set up cells in different States to encourage the use and production of non-conventional energy;

(b) if so, details of such plans to bring Government policies and schemes within the reach of small entrepreneurs interested in producing non-conventional energy;

(c) what are the funds made available by Government for this purpose in 2003-04 and in the current fiscal year;

(d) the details of State-wise release of such funds by Government; and

(e) the measures proposed by Government to encourage State to produce non-conventional energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (e) There is no proposal to set up cells in different States. However, at the instance of this Ministry, State Governments are setting up District Advisory Committees (DACs) on Renewable Energy in each district with the aim of (i) to support this Ministry's efforts in planning and coordination of various renewable energy programmes apart from creation of mass awareness in the district; (ii) to suggest suitable mechanisms for formulation and implementation of village energy plans and programmes to cover remote and forest fringe villages for electrification through renewable energy systems; (iii) to coordinate and integrate implementation of various renewable energy programmes in the district and suggest measures for accelerated progress; (iv) to review achievements made under different programmes and suggest corrective measures, if any; and (v) to organise and monitor post-installation servicing of renewable energy devices/systems installed in the district and to safeguard interests of the public and consumers. The Committee is headed by the District Collector/Deputy Commissioner whereas the Project Director of the District Rural Development Agency or chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad is its Member Secretary. Membership comprises district officers belonging to

allied departments, such as Forests, Industries, Agriculture, Information Technology, Education, Healt, etc; Representatives from District Bar Council (or Govt. Pleader), Lead Bank, Non-Governmental Organisations, Rotary Club, Lions Club, local industry associations, scientists etc. At least six members of the Committee will be women. So far, 25 States have set up 376 DACs in various districts of the country. Commencing 2005-06, DACs may get token funds for their functioning.

Potential of solar wind and biogas energy in the country

2411. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study has been made regarding the potential of solar energy, wind energy and biogas energy in the country;

(b) if so, what are the plans to tap these energy sources by NGOs and by commercial establishments;

(c) what is the amount of subsidy given on Capital Investment made in such projects by Government; and

(d) the schemes, of Government, in force at present to generate electricity by Non-Conventional Energy Sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Different studies/estimates indicate that a potential of about 20 MW equivalent per square kilometer of covered area from solar energy, 45,000 MW from wind and 120 lakh family type biogas plants exists in the country.

(b) to (d) Wind power projects are being set up mainly through private investment. No capital subsidy is being provided for such investments. However, fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation, relief in taxes and duties and term loans from financial institutions are being provided apart from preferential tariffs in some potential States. On the other hand, the biogas and solar energy schemes/programmes are being implemented mainly through the State Nodal Agencies/States Government departments, involving in some instances State level NGOs/voluntary organizations/other agencies. Financial incentives/capital subsidies are being provided for setting up/installing biogas plants and solar energy systems/devices, the